

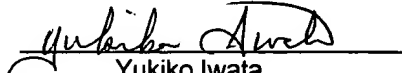


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Yukiko Iwata
Date: June 11, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)
DAVID M. SINGLETON , LOUIS KRAVETZ,)
and BRENDAN D. MURRAY) Group Art Unit: 1751
Serial No. 09/655,964) Examiner: N. Ogden, Jr.
Filed September 6, 2000)
HIGHLY BRANCHED PRIMARY ALCOHOL) June 11, 2002
COMPOSITIONS, AND BIODEGRADABLE)
DETERGENTS MADE THEREFROM)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

This paper, filed with a Request for Continued Examination, is in response to the office action mailed December 11, 2001.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as provided in clean form as follows. A marked-up version of the claims is provided on the attached separate page to show changes relative to the previous version of the claims shown by strikethrough for deletion and underlining for addition.

1. (Amended) A biodegradable sulfate composition comprising sulfates of an alkyl branched primary alcohol composition having from 8 to 36 carbon atoms, wherein said